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THE TAMING OF THE SHREWD

(Round 5 of second series of
Fighting Blood)

Story by H.C. Witwer

Scenario by Beatrice Van

Directed by Henry Lehrman

Released by Film Booking Offices

Reels

2

Released

Sept. 30, 1923.

"The Taming of the Shrewd"

By H. C. Witwer

While Gale Galen, under the supervision of his manager, Nate Shapiro, and his trainer, K. O. Kelly, is training for his championship bout against Fighting Shrewd, he is called upon by Derry Kilpatrick, one of the most popular directors in Hollywood. Kilpatrick wants to use the hired "mother" of the three friends in a moving picture starring Rosemary DuBarry, Gale's friend, who has accompanied the director. Seeing that the mother is enthusiastic about the proposition, the boys advise her to go.

Soon after the director, Rosemary, and the mother have left, the boys discover a basket which has been left on the front porch. In it is a baby with a note from a discouraged girl who intends to commit suicide. She leaves directions for the infant's care, and Gale immediately starts to feed it milk. When the others point out the fact that the feeding is three minutes early, Gale tells them not to butt in, as he has been chosen the child's father.

After much excitement over the baby's treatment, during

which each one demands to hold the child, a change takes place owing to a startling discovery, and the game becomes one of passing the buck. Gale takes his opportunity to leave when he gets a call from Patricia Paddington, a rich girl whose father is opposed to her cultivating the friendship of a prize fighter. Kelly also leaves, and Nate is stuck with the baby.

Gale, arriving at Pat's house, invites her to go out and see mother working in the movies. They drive off just as Paddington comes out of the house in a rage. Gale breaks the news to Patricia that he is a father, and then quickly explains. Behind them, Mr. Paddington is pursuing in another car.

At a picturesque location the picture is being taken. A prop boy is dressed to double for Rosemary. As Patricia and Gale drive up, the prop boy dives into the river. Gale is quick to the rescue, but the prop boy, who is actually drowning, hauls off and smashes him in the eye, cutting a gash above it. Gale, realizing that Rosemary never had a punch like that,

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knows that the only way to save the boy is to knock him unconscious, and he does so. Then he drags him to the bank and when the boy regains consciousness he is thankful for his rescue.

Paddington restrains his daughter from going to Gale's side. Gale announces that he must go right back to town or he will be late for his fight. The prop boy is concerned over Gale's wounded eye, as it will be a splendid target for Fighting Shrewd. He admits he has bet every cent on Gale, and Gale assures him that if he can get him back to town in time the money will not be lost. Climbing into the car, while Rosemary and mother beseech him to give up fighting, Gale and the prop boy make full speed toward town.

Nate, at home with the baby, is nearly wild. He wants to go to the fight, but doesn't know what to do with the child. Kelly has not shown up, having been out all afternoon with a flashy blonde. Finally both fighter and trainer return, to be met by the indignant manager. Not knowing what to do with the baby, they take it to the arena with them.

Fighting Shrewd, favorite of the crowd, takes his place in

the ring. Patricia, dressed in boy's clothes is in a ringside seat, with her father, who does not recognize her, sitting next to her. Gale is nervous from the excitement of the afternoon, but after a few reassuring words from Nate he enters the ring.

Rosemary and mother, at home, find the baby's clothes and wonder at their presence in a bachelor's establishment. Suddenly the door bell rings, and the baby's mother, who has decided not to commit suicide, anxiously demands the return of her offspring. They explain that the baby must have been taken to the arena, and all three leave for the fight.

In the ring battle, Gale knocks Fighting Shrewd out.

In the dressing room, afterwards, the irate mother demands to know who brought her baby to that germ laden hole. The three chums politely blame it on one another, and Kelly shows the woman out.

Patricia is caught by her father before leaving the hall, but escapes and runs out. She bumps into Gale, who is walking outside with Rosemary. Gale turns to chase the young ruffian, for Pat is still in disguise, but Rosemary tells him he has done enough fighting for one day.

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'The Taming of the Shrewd'

By H. C. Witwer



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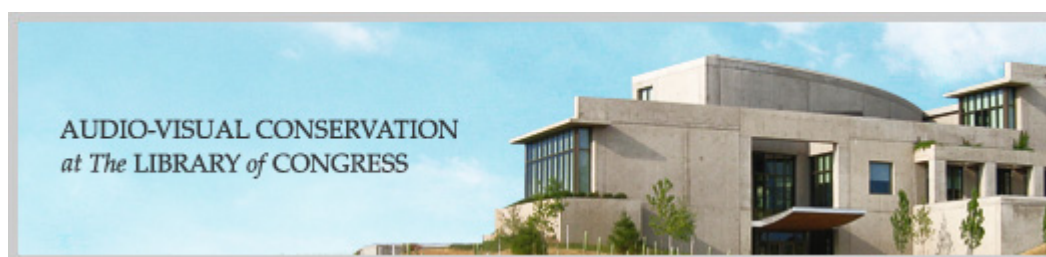
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